

12/17/14

Sponsored By: Executive Committee

**GMPC MOTION NO. 15-1**

A MOTION amending the 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies; outlining a process for jurisdictions working together to identify future school sites within the UGA.

WHEREAS the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) convened the School Siting Task Force in 2011 to address the issue of whether public school serving primarily urban populations should be sited in rural areas and whether such facilities should be served by sewers; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force completed their work on March 31, 2012, issuing a report and final recommendations to the King County Executive; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the work of the Task Force, two new policies were added to the 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) – PF-18 and PF-19; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 GMPC work program included an item to implement the remainder of the Task Force recommendations, including: *“The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) should identify policies and adopt a work program that commits jurisdictions to working together to identify future school sites within the UGA. These policies shall direct jurisdictions to use zoning and other land use tools to ensure a sufficient supply of land for siting schools”*; and

WHEREAS, at the May 21, 2014 GMPC meeting, staff proposed a policy to directly respond to the Task Force’s direction. GMPC members reviewed the draft policy and identified the need to more fully address the issues of breadth, coordination between jurisdictions and public school districts, and the workload impacts to the respective jurisdictions and school districts. GMPC members also wanted to ensure that the proposed policy fully addressed the planning needs of the jurisdictions/school districts while being sensitive to the impact of siting parameters and land use regulations on curriculum needs; and

WHEREAS, to implement Task Force recommendation and address issues raised at the May 21, 2014 GMPC meeting, a new policy, PF-19A is being proposed.

39 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Growth Management Planning  
40 Council of King County hereby recommends that the 2012 King County Countywide  
41 Planning Policies be amended to add new policy PF-19A with preceding text, as follows:  
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43 Public school facilities to meet the needs of growing communities are an essential part  
44 of the public infrastructure. Coordination between each jurisdiction's land use plan and  
45 regulations and their respective school district[s] facility needs are essential for public  
46 school capacity needs to be met. The following policy applies countywide and requires  
47 engagement between each school district and each city that is served by the school  
48 district. The policy also applies to King County as a jurisdiction for areas of  
49 unincorporated King County that are within a school district's service boundary. The  
50 policy initiates a periodic procedure to identify if there are individual school district  
51 siting issues and if so, a process for the school district and jurisdiction to cooperatively  
52 prepare strategies for resolving the issue.

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54 **PF-19A** Plan, through a cooperative process between jurisdictions and school  
55 districts, that public school facilities are available, to meet the needs of existing and  
56 projected residential development consistent with adopted comprehensive plan  
57 policies and growth forecasts.

58 Cooperatively work with each school district located within the jurisdiction's  
59 boundaries to evaluate the school district's ability to site school facilities  
60 necessary to meet the school district's identified student capacity needs. Use  
61 school district capacity and enrollment data and the growth forecasts and  
62 development data of each jurisdiction located within the school district's  
63 service boundaries. By January 2016 and every two years thereafter, determine  
64 if there is development capacity and the supporting infrastructure to site the  
65 needed school facilities. If not, cooperatively prepare a strategy to address the  
66 capacity shortfall. Potential strategies may include:

- 67 • Shared public facilities such as play fields, parking areas and access
- 68 drives
- 69 • School acquisition or lease of appropriate public lands
- 70 • Regulatory changes such as allowing schools to locate in additional
- 71 zones or revised development standards
- 72 • School design standards that reduce land requirements (such as multi-
- 73 story structures or reduced footprint) while still meeting programmatic
- 74 needs

75 In 2017, and every two years thereafter, King County shall report to the GMPC  
76 on whether the goals of this policy are being met. The GMPC shall identify  
77 corrective actions as necessary to implement this policy.